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May 22, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane Room 1061
Rockville, Md 20857-0003

Re: Docket No. 98n-1265

Dear Friends:

I send this letter as a consumer of health care services to register my concern and disapproval of the **Memorandum of Understanding** as published by the FDA on January 21, 1999. I am a resident of Michigan, with a health problem that requires a compounded drug, available only from a pharmacy located in Wisconsin. It appears that, in its present form, the MOA and the **Compounding Section 503A of the Modernization Act** will severely restrict my right to obtain this prescribed drug, forcing me to switch to a drug that has been patented by a large pharmaceutical company, and which bears unpleasant side effects.

This MOU must be amended! There should be no restrictions on the delivery of compounded medication prescribed for health consumers, regardless of where we live or travel. This legislative guidance, as written, also infringes on the rights of physicians and compounding pharmacists to serve the public's medical needs.

I hope that depriving consumers like me of our right to make use of pharmacies specializing in compounded prescriptions was not the original intent of this legislative guidance. Its effect, however, will be to severely restrict my choices regarding pharmaceutical products, effectively creating a monopoly (at least in Michigan) for brand-name drugs. I urge you to amend the MOA and the Compounding Section 503A of the Modernization Act.

Sincerely,

Merry Stanford

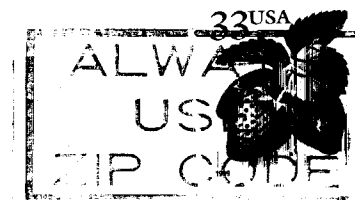
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cc: Senator Carl Levin
Senator Spencer Abraham
Representative Debbie Stabenow

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